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6 April 1961

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR:

1. This memorandum recommends action in Paragraph 6.

2. OSI desires to have a representative participate in an unclassified inter-agency conference at HEW tentatively scheduled for May 25 or 26 on Soviet education. It is planned to publish an HEW document reporting what each speaker states, and to list the speaker's identity and office or agency affiliation, so that the name of our representative and what he or she had to say would be made public.

3. While the subject is listed as "Soviet Education", the questions in the HEW letter to [redacted], include these: 25X1A9a 25X1A6a

How does the Soviet budget for education compare with that of the United States?

How do teachers' salaries in the Soviet Union compare with those of other professionals and of workers in the Soviet Union?

How do teachers' salaries in the Soviet Union compare with United States salaries?

What is the status of teachers in the USSR as compared with teachers in the United States?

The other questions pertain solely to the Soviet Union.

4. In view of the President's aid-to-education bill, which will have very tough sledding not only because of the religious issue but because of the feeling of some Americans who oppose Federal aid to education, these questions appear to be loaded. CIA people might well talk solely on education in the Soviet Union; when they make comparisons with the opposite numbers in the

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United States, CIA might be charged with assisting in creating good will for an Administration bill which is controversial and which will put CIA in the political field; or at least we may be so charged.

5. It would be better, it seems to me, if we could send an observer rather than an active participant, but if we do send a participant, it should be a covert person whose name may be made public later, together with his or her CIA affiliation, and such participant should under no circumstances make any comparisons of United States and Soviet budgets, teachers' salaries, or other U.S.-U.S.S.R. comparisons. We should be limited solely to stating what the Soviet Union has, what it pays, etc., but avoid any comparisons. It might be more prudent to present a formal paper.

6. RECOMMENDATION: That this communication be furnished to the Office of SI for its guidance if it still desires to send a representative to this meeting.

STANLEY J. GROGAN
Assistant to the Director

cc: DDCI
Asst. to DD/I (Planning)
Liaison Officer/SI
Asst. to DCI w/basic

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